



PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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SARASOTA WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY **TO BANKRUPTCY FRAUD**

Lori Ann Snyder, age 43, a resident of Sarasota, Florida, entered a plea of guilty to a one count Information charging her with committing bankruptcy fraud. Snyder's guilty plea was pursuant to a written Plea Agreement filed with the United States District Court in Tampa, Florida.

According to the Information and written Plea Agreement, between December 1995 and January 2000, Snyder applied for credit cards issued by various financial institutions using false names and false social security numbers. The false names used by Snyder included the names of several of her pet dogs, such as Emily London, Tulip London and Daisy London. Snyder then used the credit cards to pay for various goods and services and to pay off balances due on other credit cards.

On March 18, 2002, Snyder filed for bankruptcy protection under Chapter 7 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. In her petition, she failed to disclose that she had used other names in the six years preceding her bankruptcy filing and that she had used social security numbers other than her true social security number.

At the time Snyder filed for bankruptcy she had obtained at least 55 different credit cards, approximately 23 of which were issued in the names of her pet dogs, and she had incurred unsecured credit card debt in the total approximate amount of \$265,000, a portion of which was attributable to the credit cards in the dogs' names.

The case was investigated by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Sarasota, Florida and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Dennis Moore.

An Information is merely a formal charge by the United States Attorney's Office that a defendant has committed a violation of federal criminal law.

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